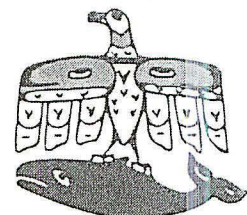


# MAKAH TRIBAL COUNCIL

P.O. BOX 115 • NEAH BAY, WA 98357 • 360-645-2201

*The Makah Tribe is an equal opportunity employer.*



August 15, 2012

Dennis McLerran  
Regional Administrator  
EPA Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101

*Re: Proposed Listing of the Warmhouse Beach Dump on the National Priorities List*

Dear Mr. McLerran,

We are writing to express the Makah Tribal Council's appreciation for the consultation meeting we had with Dan Opalski, Brandon Perkins and Lisa Castanon on August 6 in Neah Bay and to confirm that the Tribe wishes to move forward with proposing the Warmhouse Beach Dump for listing on the National Priorities List (NPL).

The consultation meeting was productive and helped us gain a better understanding of the overall process of proposing the Dump for listing. As we have explained in previous correspondence, the Tribe is strongly committed to restoring this part of the Reservation which for decades has been blighted by the Dump. By doing so, we will protect the health of the Makah community and the surrounding environment on which the Tribe depends for its subsistence and economy. These dual objectives have made the Dump's closure our highest environmental priority for many years, and we are looking forward to achieving our goal in partnership with EPA.

After considering the issues that would be part of an EPA-led cleanup process, the Tribe has concluded that proposing the Dump for listing on the NPL is the appropriate next step in our long effort to investigate, mitigate and, finally, close the Dump. This effort is part of the Tribe's larger work to provide comprehensive solid waste management on the Reservation, and we were proud to show your staff the transfer station that is scheduled to go online this Fall. We request that EPA move forward with the proposed listing in the next available rulemaking cycle, which we understand would involve a federal register notice proposing the Dump for inclusion on the NPL in the spring of 2013.

Throughout the Tribe's efforts to address the serious environmental and health issues posed by the Dump, we have appreciated the close working relationship with and respect for Makah values expressed by EPA and Region 10 in particular. This goes a long way to building the confidence and trust that a continued collaborative effort will require – from NPL listing to

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the subsequent investigation, review of alternatives, selection of remedial design and remedial action.

Thank you again for Region 10's hard work on this issue of critical importance to the Tribe, and we look forward to moving this effort forward in close consultation with you and your staff. Please do not hesitate to contact us for additional information as you prepare materials for the proposed listing. As we noted on August 6, our staff contacts for this project will be Dana Sarff (b) (6) 360-640-8125) and Steve Pendleton (steve.pendleton@makah.com 360-640-2165). Michael Lawrence, the Council's Vice Chairman, will remain the Council's lead on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

MAKAH TRIBAL COUNCIL



Micah McCarty, Chairman

cc (by email): Dan Opalski, EPA Region 10  
Brandon Perkins, EPA Region 10  
Lisa Castanon, EPA Region 10